



LORD
GOD JOHN

SORRY FOLKS, WE COULDN'T GET A ~~PHOTO~~
INTERVIEW AS JOHN WAS TOO BUSY ON HIS CABARET
TOUR OF THE FAR EAST, HOWEVER WE DO HAVE THIS
PIC] AS SOME KIND OF CONSOLATION, OH YES, WE'LL
HAVE TOO APOLOGIZE TO HIS HIGHNESS, AS ON THIS
PICTURE WE HAVEN'T DRAWN HIS 'KING' PUNK CROWN
SO SORRY ABOUT THAT YOUR HIGHNESS. IN THIS ISSUE
OF HAVE A GOOD LAUGH, WE HAVE THE USUAL GOODIES
FOR YOU, AND SOME ARTICLES ON LESSER KNOWN AND NOT
QUITE SO RICH BANDS, AS WELL AS OUR WICKED SENSE OF
HUMOUR. NOW, REGARDING YOU THE READER, IF
YOU KNOW OF ANY BANDS THAT WANTS TO APPEAR WITHIN
THESE PAGES, GET 'EM TO WRITE IN, OR YOU THE READER
IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO OFFER DO LIKEWISE

The address-
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BURNOPFIELD, NEWCASTLE
UPON TYNE NE16 6

POST MORTEM T-SHIRTS (\$2.50) TAPES (\$1.00) + SAE FROM LORRAINE, 56 CASTLETON ROAD, SW10 8RN. GIVE SAWNINGS.

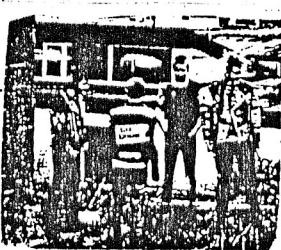
Well, here goes for the first of many reviews. Thanx to Gary from darkest Annfield Plain for sending it, he was the only one that did send a gig review - WHY??? Get off yer ass and do one and it'll almost certainly be in No.7.

DIRT/Famous Imposters The Bunker 9/3/84 - First off, tonight Anthrax and Polemic were supposed to be playing and not the F. Imposters, however Anthrax had 'other commitments' and Polemic lost their guitarist during the week.

Anyway, it was great to be back at the Bunker once again, as a really friendly and interesting night out is guaranteed here. It was the third time I'd seen the F. Imposters in less than a fortnight so I was used to some of the songs in their set. They seemed to go down very well in front of what must be a home crowd for them so it wasn't surprising that there was a number of people dancing away down the front and let there be no mistake that this band really does make you feel like having a bit of a jump about to their music which has a very distinctive and tuneful guitar sound. Best songs in my opinion were "Fighting Again", "Cradle to the Grave" and also "Perfect Past".

DIRT when they appeared looked a lot different from the old days with their new line up (even Gary-he of the snake-like antics was almost unrecognisable). The sound of the band was certainly a lot quieter with not nearly as much screaming and shrieking as before but they were also a lot less livelier on stage. They still pleased the crowd who had come to the gig tho', if even only a couple of their past songs were included. So all in all, another worthwhile gig and here's hoping for a lot more to follow at the bunker this year.

I SENT AN INTERVIEW TO THIS
SCOTTISH BAND BUT THEY HAVEN'T
RETURNED IT YET SO
A LITTLE BIT INFO'S THE
BEST



← The Photos L-R →
PITTEM, ERNY, TAITY, JAMES



Brigade

THANX TO GORDON FOR
SENDING THE INFO

INFLUENCES

PISTOLS, DISCHARGE, CRISIS, BOOZE, AND OURSELVES

RED BRIGADE HAVE 1
6-TRICK TAPE FOR
THEIR USE FOR
REVIEWS

INDIVIDUALLY
AND
SELF
BY RULE

UK DK

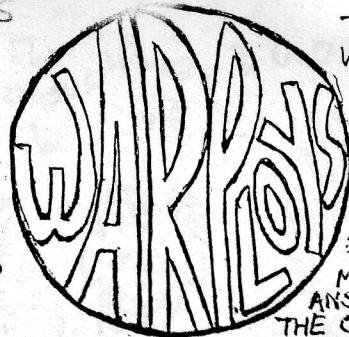
CONTACT FOR INFO

ERNY 57 HILLCREST
FRASERBURG
BERDE
SCOTLAND
SHIRE

The one and only Fraserburgh punk band have been on the go now since mid 1982 and have done several gigs locally. The line-up is Erny(19)-vocals Pittam(18)-bass Jamesy(17)-guitar Taity(17)-drums

Taitty(17)-drums
Despite the name, we are not communists nor National Front/Nazi. We are just a punk band who don't have any left or right wing political views and we believe that Punk's not dead(Who could argue?). We hope to play more gigs sooner than you bargained for so look out for The Mental Brigade Crew sooner than the world is prepared for.

THE WARPLOYS
ARE
MARKY
- VOCALS
COOPA
- GUITAR
GAZ
- BASS
WOLF
- DRUMS



THE WARPLOYS HAVE BEEN AROUND FOR AGES NOW, IN VARIOUS LINE-UPS, ALTHOUGH MARKY AND GAZ HAVE REMAINED IN THE LATEST LINE-UP. THE BAND ARE JUST STARTING TO PLAY FURTHER AFIELD NOW AFTER YEARS OF GIGGING AROUND THE GATESHEAD /FELLING AREA. THE GIGS I'VE SEEN THEM PLAY HAVE RANGED FROM GOOD TO AWFUL (DEPENDING ON HOW THEY PISSED THEM).

WERE AT
THE TIME.
MARKY
ANSWERED
THE QUESTIONS.

Why was there a gap in gigging around the time of Nov 83 - Feb 84?

We were practising with our new drummer and changing the set and doing new songs. There was also nowhere to play.

Do you get on OK with other Gateshead bands, eg Reptiles and Total Chaos? Do you like their music?

They're OK musicwise but we don't get on with them. Why not?

Cos they call us fascists and we're not. They won't let us play the Station and got us blacklisted from a lot of places.

Has the addition of Coopa on guitar made a difference, and what happened to the other guitarist?

Yes, it's made our sound stronger. Hedley, the other guitarist, had different ideas and he was a fascist so we kicked him out.

What made you want to start a band in the first place?

I used to sing for a band called Emergency Exit and I decided to form my own band cos there were no bands in the Felling area.

What do you class as your best song, and do the new ones differ in style to the old ones? "Conscripts", a new one, is our best song and yes the songs do differ because we're getting better musically. We do a few more 'rock n roll'ish ones now.

Did you really cause the trouble which led you to be banned from the Station? Are you bothered?

It's a long story. We paid £15 for a lend of the Station gear which didn't turn up so we went and got it ourselves. Apart from that, they were just looking for an excuse to ban us. We wrote "Twist" about it.

We're not bothered about being banned cos it's a shithole. It's the same people all the time. We were sick of playing to the same faces.

I believe you're playing the Robin Adair which is right in the middle of quaint ol' Scotswood-are you THAT sick of your life???

Why didn't you turn up there to support megastars Bondage there at a gig many moons ago?

No, it's somewhere to play. The bloke who used to organise gigs at the honeysuckle does the Robin Adair now. D.O.S, Impact and the

Insergeons (think that's how you spell it) are playing as well.

We got a phone call saying that the Bondage gig was cancelled.

The Warploys are planning to release a 3 track flexi which they will probably give away at their gigs

THE VARUKERS

RAT OF THE VARUKERS ASKED IF I COULD PRINT THEIR INFO SHEET SO I SENT HIM AN INTERVIEW COS INFO SHEETS APPEAR IN LOADS+LOADS OF ZINES SO YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO MAKE DO WITH THE INTERVIEW SO THERE!!!

who thought of the name?

Gary, our original drummer thought of the name "Varukers"?

Which of the many different line ups do you think was the best?

Difficult to say but I think the current one.

Do you think you would have been more or less successful

now if you had stayed together right from the start, instead of having all the line-up changes?

Yes we probably would have been more successful had we kept a stable line up but hopefully this year's our year.

Why were there so many previously released tracks on "Bloodsuckers"? Did you not have many songs at the time it was recorded? How long did it take to record it?

The reason we put "Don't Wanna be a Victim" and "No Masters no Slaves" on the album was because we wanted a better version of them for prosperity. It took 3 days to record.

Why did you kick Bruce out and why has Eric left?

We kicked Bruce out because he wasn't pulling his weight. Eric left because he went smooth.

(Rat) Did you sing on "Die for your Govt" cos the voice sounds different to the one on "Led to the Slaughter"?

Yes I did sing on both singles. Don't know why it sounds different-perhaps my voice is breaking (ha ha).

What have you got to say to people that say that you can't sing about anything else but war? I can but I don't want to.

How old are the band members?

I (Rat) am 20 years old, Andy is 21 and Damion is 17.

Do you agree with animal liberation and are any of the band vegetarians? (clashed question)

Yes I do agree with animal liberation. Don't know about Damion or Andy. Our new bass player is and he is a vegan.

Have people slagged you off for the cover of "Protest and Survive" (obviously similar to Discharge's first EP cover I reckon)?

No, I don't think it looks anything like the Discharge cover. Ours is red and black, theirs is white and black. Ours has two punks on it, theirs has got a studded leather jacket on it.

Which of your releases has sold the most copies?

"Protest and Survive" has sold the most-8,000 copies.

I (Rat) write the lyrics and Damion writes the tunes.

I've heard "Riot City" is run by EMI??? I've also heard EMI funds the arms race? If both of these statements are true, then what is a band like you doing on a label with opposite intentions???

If Riot City are connected to EMI I don't think bands like Disorder and Chaos UK would associate with them. You can't believe rumours and I don't think Riot City contribute funds for guns.

Finally, with one departure already, have you faith in what's left of the new line-up staying together?

Yes there has already been a departure (Eric/bass) but you see, he wasn't a punk, the rest of us are.

DOS (WHICH STANDS FOR DELINQUENTS OF SOCIETY) ARE A 4 PIECE BAND FROM CARLISLE.

AFTER I LINE UP CHANGE, THE LINE UP IS

SID - VOCALS

TONY - GUITAR

KEV - BASS

JAMIE - DRUMS

ALL BUT SID HAVE BEEN IN OTHER LOCAL BANDS - TONY IN SOCIAL SCUM, KEV IN SOCIETY'S VICTIMS AND JAMIE WHO WAS IN DISTORTION

THEY WILL HOPEFULLY RECORD A DEMO IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

THANX TO GIT WHO DID THIS INTERVIEW WITH KEV THE BASSIST -----

What are your ages?

Well I'm 19, Tony's 19 too, Sid is 18 and Jamie's 17.

I've heard that the punk scene in Carlisle is a bit stale?

Hah!!! That's the understatement of the year-has to be!!! Totally absolutely fucking rotted and decomposed is the word. That's a fairly good estimation of Carlisle itself too! Carlisle's never been particularly active in any music scene. There's never been an enormous quantity of punx in Carlisle. These days, though, there's less than ever. There's only really a few, apart from us. Though there's a lot of shit-headed morons and part-timers, and people who stay at home all the time. Nah, Carlisle's punk scene is dead-apart from DOS and close associates to us. It's stale everywhere just now.

What was the Carlisle punk festival like? Did you go down well?

Hmmmm...well, it wasn't as good as we'd expected it to be - in fact it was fucking disappointing and a bit of a failure. There were only about 400 people there, and most of em didn't seem interested in what woz going on, they were a fucking apathetic bunch. Well it woz a pity, cos we'd spent a lot of time organising it and trying to make it worthwhile.

As far as performance goes - well we weren't that good, it was one of our "off" days, I dunno why. That woz with our old line up anyway. We've improved greatly since then. I don't think the crowd were very impressed either. Anyway, being first on, there was no atmosphere to respond to - and it woz still light in the hall too! Y'know, we still ain't been paid for that fucking gig. Anyway - why weren't you there??!

Coz I hate going out of my way to see bands that i've either seen already or will do, and a bit nearer. I was probably on the dole then so I couldn't afford it. -Trev.

How many gigs have you done?

Shit...oh, about 50 or so. Can't remember. We'd like to do more, but since Cumbria's such a dead-end pit, we don't get much local encouragement. There's no venues anyway - no decent ones at least. The council don't wanna encourage them for some reason. They're about as usefull as a pile of crap. We've basically ceased doing gigs in Cumbria - particularly Carlisle - now cos of the hassle we get from various morons. It ain't worth the bother, and if they don't like us, we ain't gonna play to them!

Do you practice often?

Well, about once or twice a week - if we're lucky. We've really been getting better just recently, I think - a fuller, tighter sound and all. We just need some live work to prove ourselves.

What inspires your songs?

Oh...the usual - dole, nuclear issue, anti-violence, pro-sex, and other excitingly rivetting subjects. We've got loads of songs, all our own. We don't actually have any specific messages - we write what comes into our heads. Our bias is towards the music - a decent sound etc - rather than trying to convey a particular message, sacrificing the music in doing so like the "anarchist" type bands do. Hardly anyone listens to the lyrics anyway.

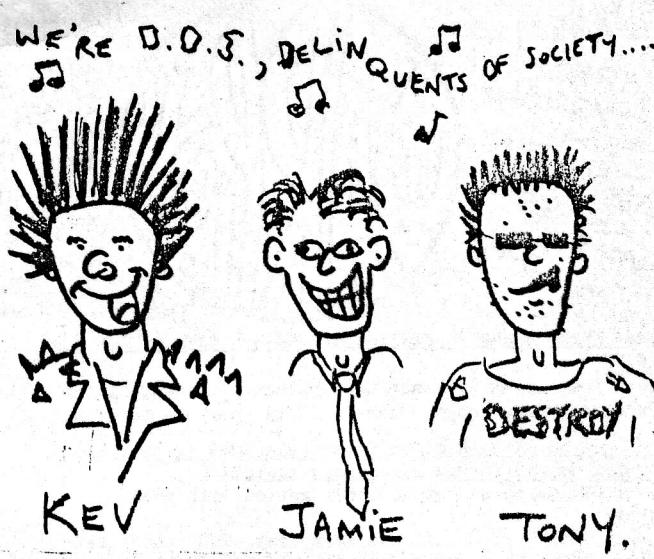
FOR AN AMAZINGLY LONG LIST OF TAPES SEND TO

GORDON JACK

13 MACDONALD PLACE,
FRASERBURGH
ABERDEENSHIRE
SCOTLAND



SID



KEV

JAMIE

TONY.

What do you think of the a bands then?

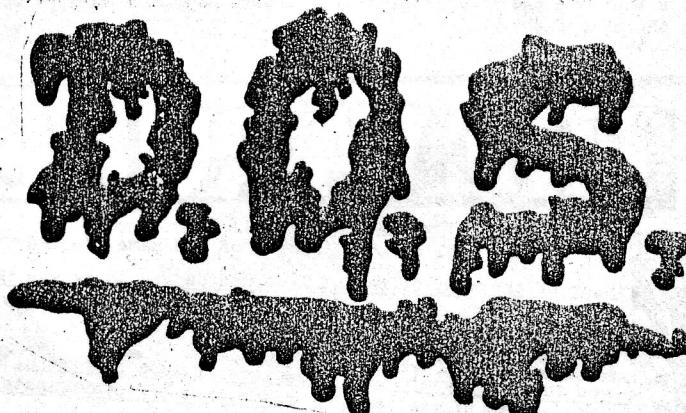
Well i'm not too keen on them personally, but I think they are perfectly valid. I think it's good that they're influencing people to care about the world around em more.

Generally, I do think they get a bit predictable, music-wise especially. They are often contradictory and hypocritical too, and ignore many equally or more important issues. Well we leave the political(or whatever) protest to them, and we concentrate on entertainment, as well as enjoying ourselves in the process.

What do you think of labels for punk? And what do you think of the punk 'image' (studs, leather, spiky hair)?

Well, I think it's merely convenient to divide punk into Hardcore, Anarchist, Positive, Oi(Dead) or whatever. It's all listened to by punks and/or skins, but there is a definite difference in styles and approach, whether one likes it or not. Nah, I don't mind labels - what the fuck anyway??!

As for the punk "uniform" etc - Yeah, I think it's OK. It does get boring sometimes. It's good to be able to recognise other punx in other places - when ya go to another town and see a punk in studs etc, you can immediately associate - so it's a way of meeting each other. Otherwise it's a case of wearing what you wanna wear. The same old story.....



Do you have any disgusting or perverted habits?

Ha ha!! Why? What, ya mean like scratch and sniff, or pick and lick? Or feeling little girls private parts? Or masturbating in public? Or urolagnia and enema? Or doing unusual things with bananas... Yeah!!

No...course not.. What d'ya take me for!!! Ya get arrested for things like that!!

Future plans?

Well, we hope to do a few gigs around Newcastle soon - probably with the Warploys. We also want to do a decent demo in the near future once we find some bloody money. OK Right, that's it, is it?

ANYONE THAT WANTS TO WRITE TO D.O.S., CONTACT KEV, 46 MORTON STREET, CALDWELL, CARLISLE, CUMBRIA.

ANYONE WITH OFFERS OF GIGS DON'T HESITATE TO WRITE

INTERESTING FACT NUMBER ONE

FORGET TO PUT THIS IN THE LAST ISSUE BUT -----
ON BRUCE FORSYTH'S 'PLAY YOUR CARDS RIGHT', 100 PSYCHIATRISTS WERE ASKED 'WHEN WATCHING POLITICIANS, DO YOU EVER HAVE DOUBTS ABOUT THEIR SANITY?' SOMETHING LIKE 65% SAID YES!

ALBUMS

Various: "Wet Dreams" (Rot) *** 3/4

On first hearing I thought that it wasn't even worth the £2.39 I paid for it, but given a few spins it grows on you.

The Riot Squad tracks rate way above the rest of the album on first hearing, but Resistance 77's "Send in the SAS" and Christianity EC's "Trinity" put up a strong challenge after you hear them a few times.

Paranoia win the originality prize while External Menace take the "We could've done better" award with "Stormtrooper"; not one of their best judging by their Dingwalls gig last year if my memory serves me right.

But overall, there are a lot of bands more worth listening to than most of them on here. Should've been better.

Red London: "This is England" (Razor) *** 1/2

This is England and this is disappointing. Very disappointing. A no-hope attempt at equalling the brilliance of their single.

An impression is created that Red London don't know where they are going-white reggae, punk, acoustic, even a maccum ballad!

"CND", "Guitars and Crime" and "Red Alert" are about the best tracks on the album, but I wouldn't like to have chosen any had Red London made the most of the promising ideas in most of the songs here. Take "Windward Drifter", reminiscent of Total Chaos circa "Brixton Prison"-while the Total Chaos song in question livens up, this just stays the same pace all the time and seems over in no time.

The mix is a bit dodgy on some tracks, as if the bass was dubbed over the top, particularly on the first (and best) 2 tracks, and the covers totally unoriginal-just 2 more reasons why this album isn't a patch on what it should have been.

WHERE ELSE
REVIEWS
MORE

The Undead: "The Killing of Reality" (Riot City) ****
Judging by the "It's Corruption" single I didn't expect anything special here. However, the "Violent Visions" single was a different story and thankfully so is this.

Take good tunes, nice drumming and a singer that can S.I.N.G. (almost a forgotten word these days) and you come up with this. Soundwise the only complaint I have is that the guitar is a bit too laid back on a couple of tracks but you don't take minor details like that into consideration if the LP in question is as good as this.

No track stands out here...it's just classic after classic-just listen to "S.O.F.", "Voices and Visions", "Let me Go", "Acid Punk", "Terrorist TV", "Listen to the Wallbeat", "Nightmares after You"-you'll find it's a bit different to yer average "Yell/bawl/shout/100 mph or bust" record.

Sure, the "same old tune" does creep up in places but is made less distinguishable by Al Scarlett's vocals which are a damn sight more effective than the usual "try and lose yer voice box" attitude:-For instance, take "Acid Punk". The first chords remind you of a Chaos UK song, but then the bass and drums crash in as if they were built into each other and Al comes in to complete the job...

A 3 quid price tag and lyric sheet would make it an extremely essential buy, but I suppose we can't have everything. Best LP since Cock Sparrers!. Need I say more?

Anti-Sect: "In Darkness there is no choice" (Spiderleg) **
Anti-Sect didn't turn up at the Station and on the evidence of this, they were not missed.

Beyond the excellent "Tortured and Abused" and the title track, there is little more than a horrible noise, similar to Discharge pissing about. The lyrics which accompany the tunes are printed on the cover which is just as well as they more than often get lost in the barrage of noise. Although they're good lyrics, they still make you think that they have been wrote straight out of the "Colin Conflict guide to songwriting" book.

Even at their best, Anti-Sect are still unoriginal; "Tortured and Abused" sounds remarkably like DIRT (with the bloke singing).

A hell of a lot of people love this record; Ever Ready had better get those hearing aid batteries churned out and fast!

SINGLES

Uproar: "Nothing can Stop You" (Volume) *** 3/4

When Paul Protest told me that Uproar had finally got it right in the production department, I longed to get this to the record player...only to find out he was wrong! Only one problem to sort out now for Stu and the boys-Stop thinking that drums are god's gift to music! Once again the drums are far too high in the mix. The songs themselves range from nowt exciting ("Shoot to kill")

to the Uproar we know and love ("Your Empire"). The title track and "No Escape" rate somewhere between the other 2 tracks.

The record is a bit '77ish, shame the same can't be said for the price-looks like we've seen the last of the "Pay no more than £1" Volume single.

Varukers: "Led to the Slaughter" (Riot City) ***

Take the tune to The Exploited's "Fuck the USA", change it a bit, and pretend that you're Discharge, and there you have a good idea of what this record is like. Very good if it hadn't all been done before... If originality is the spice of life, maybe the Varukers are already frizzeling in the radiation.

Crass: "You're already dead" (Crass) *

I never have been one to slag off Crass, but if Steve Arrogant hears how bad this is, he'll be throwing parties all week long! I haven't read the words, but as far as music goes, you might as well listen to a bull farting through a horn. As boring as a drill expedition to Australia. Play their first record and remember how good they once were.

12 INCHERS

Hagar the Womb: "The word of the Womb" *** 4

6 well produced tracks for 2 quid make it quite good value and it's not a bad start on vinyl in the way of songs, even if there's still some room for improvement.

Most female fronted bands get compared with others and in Hagar's case I feel Rubella Ballet are the most likely comparison, the sleeve as well as the singing bearing a resemblance.

The most memorable of the songs is "Idolisation", with it's tuneful lead guitar, but no song sticks out as being a classic.

Disorder: "The Singles Collection" (Riot City) **
Disorder are a great bunch of blokes to talk to but when it comes to their music (?).....dear oh dear.

All the 7 inch singles are here (The "Perdition" 12" is not included) and although it's basically noise/noise/noise there are tunes lurking somewhere-namely "Rampton" and the 'chorus' to "Daily Life". This sorta gives the impression that Disorder COULD be good but either don't want to risk losing their thrash loving following or that they don't care about tunes anyway. All in all the best comes from the "Mental Disorder" EP here, and as that was the more recent of the 3 EPs included, things look like improving. Let's hope so.

Ligotage: "Crime and Passion" (EMI) (?) **

Can any 2 track single be worth the £1.35 that some shops are asking? I'll keep on looking ("Window shopping" wise, of course). Some day maybe. The record itself? Not bad but not a patch on Vice Squad. Come unto my bedroom Beki, and all will be forgiven... PLEASE??!!?

IF IT'S TRUE ABOUT EMI DEALING IN ARMS, THEN I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHAT A PERSON THAT ONCE SANG LAST ROCKERS IS DOING ON SUCH A LABEL!!!

HAGL No.5 CROSSWORD ANSWERS

The crossword in HAGL No.5 really seemed to puzzle you lot out there-so no more racking your brains for the missing answers, time to see where you went wrong-----



ACROSS

1) NO SOLUTION 5) MOND 7) ME 8) VEX 9) NAME 12) IT'S
13) RAY 14) STRUM 16) CYCLES 17) ME 18) AL 19) RE 22) NO LOVE
20) EIGHT 26) NEW SONG 28) DAN 29) MIRROR BREAKS 34)
LOST 32) DMS 35) ROT 36) BOYS
DOWN 1) NEVER SURRENDER 2) SIXTY 3) USE 4)
STEP FORWARD 5) MENSTRUAL 6) DIE 10)
11) KICK 15) MEL 20) TOH 21) DOWN 23) EVO 24)
27) DMS 30) IT 31) ROO 32) RAB 33) ED



A HELL ON EARS!

Faceache appeared in No.4 of HAGL. They are a duo consisting of a drummer and bassist. The bass is put through a fuzz box to compensate for the lack of guitar. Anyway, time for the interview.....

Does being a 2 piece limit you visually?

I suppose in many ways it could do, especially if we ever get to play on a large stage but so far, what with playing in places with matchbox stages, it doesn't matter. Besides, I'm very visually exciting on my own! Ha ha!

Who thought of forming what must be the worlds first punk duo?

Well, originally, we formed as a duo, cos all the lead guitarists I know are big-headed bastards but also, as you may know, we have nowhere to practice, so it would be impossible to bring in an extra man. At the moment I work out the songs in my basement and then Phil comes and has a listen, then he goes off and thinks about a drum rhythm to fit (This isn't usually too difficult cos nearly all our songs are about the same in terms of speed and tempo)

Generally, being a duo is better than having a band with more people because there are less arguments (none at all) and organisation is a piece of piss!

Would you advise other people to do the same?

Yes! What with the wide variety of effects pedals on the market now, a very full sound can be produced with just one instrument. Why bother with lead guitar anyway, it's a poof's toy! Too pretty sounding for me I'm afraid.

Are you still gigging with Anti-Sect, and now that they're quite popular, has this increased your following?

We have never gigged with Anti-Sect: I used to do a bit of driving and roadyng for them and of course they're great mates, but that's all. Maybe we will play with them one day, who can tell, but for now we're just good friends

(b) Increased what following???

What do you think of Discharge turning HM?

Good on 'em! The lyrics are still short, sharp and well thought out, and in my opinion the music is simply progressing for them. Every band changes over the years, but few can produce the magic of Discharge. (Maybe so but when are they going to produce replies to the letters they get? - Trev)

(John) Your drawings are great - have you had any kind of art training?

Yes! Art college. (sorry) I think everyone should do a spell at art college. It's a great doss! Fuck all work, loads of mates, good parties and a massive drug scene. We played our first gig at Northampton art college.

I know you hate the tories but do you think labour are any better?

No. Wankers all!

Does not having your own gear present many problems?

Well it did, because it made you feel that the band wasn't real. I mean surely equipment makes a band? Luckily we proved this to be a myth and soldiered on.

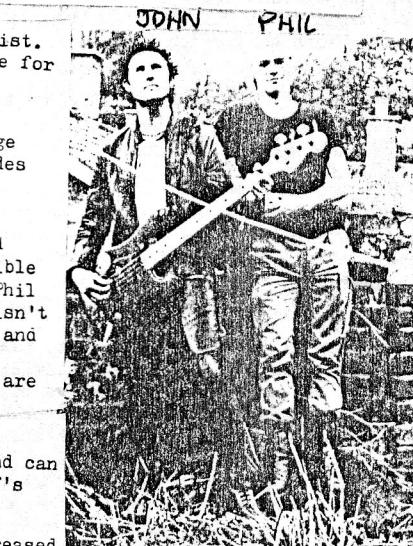
Now, we have actually got our own gear. Phil's got a new snare at last and I've got a good amp and plenty of pedals! I had to give up smoking for a while to buy the amp.

Have you ever felt like jacking it in?

Yes, especially when we got banned from every small venue in Northampton except the art college. Getting gigs can be very tiresome. We look a bit nasty I suppose, and when we walk into a pub asking to play, excuses fly and no gig is the result. People are scared of us in Northampton. They say we would attract the wrong sort of people. GOOD!

Things are picking up now though, I think we'll manage to stay together now. The worst is over I think

By the way, we do our demo in 2 weeks time. (probably long gone now)
Look out world, Faceache's gonna getcha!!



c/o
John Bryson
66 Louise Rd (off Barrack Rd)
Northampton

REALITY CONTROL

WITH A RECORD AND NUMEROUS GIGS BEHIND THEM, REALITY CONTROL NEEDED LITTLE INTRODUCTION. SHARING A FEW SAME VIEWS AS CRASS HAS LED THEM TO BE LABELLED A 'CRASS BAND', WHICH THEY AREN'T TOO HAPPY ABOUT AS THEY'RE AGAINST CLASSIFICATION. MICHAEL B. ANSWERED THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS...

How did you get on Volume records and is it a good deal? Pleased with the recording? How many's been sold so far (of the single)?

Volume offered us a deal to do one single on their label. This was mainly due to the fact that we sold quite a lot of "Happy Face" demos in quite a short space of time and also the fact that they liked it too. We agreed to the release of one single on our terms as price as low as possible, all artwork and choice of tracks up to us etc. It all seemed very fair and straightforward but since it's release we haven't been informed in positive terms, what is happening or how many have been sold. So we're not too sure how genuine Volume are, although this is just own personal opinion, maybe it's just a misunderstanding. We're not saying anything definite on the matter. The recording was done at Impulse at Wallsend, it came out very well and we're pleased with it but it's now quite dated since Carl joined (see later question).

Don't you think that if your music was better, more people would listen? It depends what you mean by "better"; "better" to someone may mean playing as fast as possible and shouting at the top of our voices, or "better" may mean to someone else that we use violins and harps etc.

Our music takes the direction we choose it to take, and we hope to get our ideas across to a wider audience via the music, thus due to this, our music has progressed and may be acceptable to a lot more people.

I take it you're an anarchist band? If so, how would you stop people killing and raping etc if there was anarchy?

Once upon a time we might have called ourselves "Anarchists" but the word has become so misused and twisted it is no longer relevant. Our ideas are the same, but calling yourself an "anarchist" we found to turn people off your ideas due to media interpretation/indoctrination and other so called "anarchists".

Our aim is to live in a society based on life, freedom, equality and peace. To achieve this cannot be done in a couple of years, it will take hundreds of generations to occur, gradually, where people would realise that there is no need for violence, war and rape, people would live in peaceful co-existence with each other, without the constant fear of confrontation and competition that exists at the moment. People might say "who cares, it won't happen in my lifetime, but it's your world which is dying, it's future is in everyone's hands."

(Michael answered the next 2 questions together as he felt they were similar:)

Bearing in mind that you could get through to a lot more people, would you do an interview with Punk Lives, which you've already said is a rip-off?

Punk Lives is a magazine for "punks". It has lovely pictures of "punks" so "punks" can cut them out and stick them on their walls. They can read all of the latest "punk" info and all the latest "punk" bands. THIS IS NOT WHAT IT'S ABOUT. 70p for colour pictures of Wattie and his ilk WHAT IS THE POINT? These people don't care. Do you think they do it because they care about their "fans"? Their fans could wipe their arses on it for all they care. They do it for M.O.N.E.Y. That's what I think of Punk Lives. It is part of the media and the media is part of the problem. Ignoring this for a moment and bearing in mind, as you say, that we could get through to a lot more people; The question could have said Sounds or NME or anything-they're all the same. These publications do have a habit of twisting things round for their own gains. We would have to think very carefully about it. Most readers of Punk Lives are also quite young which would be good for us to try and get through to them. But it's dog eat dog isn't it. If we did go in we would be getting through to the youth but we would be contradicting ourselves because of what the mag is. If we didn't go in we'd be standing by our views but losing the chance to get through. But in the end I think the answer would be 'no'. I've seen so many bands do interviews for the music papers and come out regretting it. It's dog eat dog but we always lose. Apart from the "Band Aid" free festival, have you had a chance to preach to the unconverted and if so did this arouse any interest in what you were singing?

Concerning 'preaching to the converted'-just who are the 'converted'? The Station punks glued up to the eyes and smashed on cider? Uniformed in studded 'blankets', "meat means murder" on the back? Smash the place up? Good laugh? Punk? Converted? Enough said I think.

Also I think we have been around longer than you think. Before we played with any "Crass bands" as you put it, we thought we were basically alone in what we were aiming for. Before we met any people similar to ourselves we played to a very wide range of people, the clergy included! We played a lot of gigs to "normal" people. We got mixed reactions. They either loved us or hated us. Some people were shocked I suppose.

Judging by some of the letters we have received some people obviously have listened. There is a lot of people who genuinely do care but it appears that if you show it you will be mocked, ridiculed, laughed at and provoked from all sides. This is sad.

The Highest Bidder

The earth will be sold to the highest bidder, where are the fields of plenty? Do they not flourish anymore or have they been snatched away by those who care for none but themselves? The earth will be sold at dawn to the highest bidder, who is this figure who darkens our door? Who's hand on the needle? Injecting poison into our bloodstream. Gold is worth more than sex said the white man. The blood of the children will be taken at dawn and sold to the highest bidder. Going going gone

THE PATH TO MENTAL IMPRISONMENT
LOOKS NEARER STILL.....

Is the "Happy Face" demo deleted now that you've got a record out?

Well, not as such, people can have it if they want it, but we're not going to be selling them in big quantities any more, just to people who really want one. It's very out of date now, we only still do "Another Sunrise" and "But has it been won?" now and both are quite different to the tape. The record is also dated; we only do "Another Sunrise" from it.

What has been the best gig you've played?

I would say the best gig we've played would have been where the most members of the audience went home, thought about what we'd said and began to think more about their lives, and were hopefully inspired to do something about it.

Any chance of another record, and what would you put on it if there was?

First of all, a flexi disc is to be released, split between us and the Blood Robots; I track each, on "Stepping Out", as an aside from the fanzine, hopefully selling for about 30p. We haven't yet decided what to put on it though. As for anything else, a friend of ours is thinking about starting up a record label and would like to release a record by us, but that's just a thought really. We're also on "Bullshit Detector 3" with "But has it been won?" from the demo.

Why did the old bass player leave? How does Carl compare with him? Ken left as he had more personal and pressing commitments. If you mean how does Carl compare with musical ability, I find that irrelevant. Personality and ideas come way above any sort of musical ability. I would rather have someone who can't play but has good ideas and is a nice person than a musical genius with no ideas and a rotten personality. That's not saying Carl can't play of course; he plays just as well as anyone else and we get on really well which is the important thing.

What did you think of the "Violent Visions" slagging? Childhood. We have no time for petty slagging matches. If others do, that's their problem.

in

How did you get the gigs with the "Crass" type bands at the Bunker/Station? I take this as an insult to the bands in question (DIRT Oct 82/Bunker and System Jan 83/Bunker). We were asked if we would like to play these gigs by the people at the Bunker and we are very grateful to them. Concerning the gigs at the Station, as we had a hand in organising these gigs we thought it ----? that we should play. I'm sure the bands we played with (Dirt, System, Alternative) would deeply resent being labelled a "Crass band" purely because they happen to care and maybe have similar ideas as Crass themselves; personally, I think this is a good thing—the more the merrier! Surely it is better for a band to care and show that they do.

IF YOU WERE OFFERED A SUPPORT SLOT TO A BAND THAT HAVE LITTLE IN COMMON WITH YOU, EG EXPLOITED, WOULD YOU TAKE IT?

Depending on the circumstances and the admission fee. We have learned through past experience though, not to trust everyone that offers a gig, the more established bands especially, as the vast majority of them run their gigs on the basis of MONEY rather than trust.

(A Reality Control song)

SUGAR AND SPICE

This is the story of a new creation, a child is born today, just look at what we've created, a tool to continue, a toy to caress, they will inherit and we will repress.

Sugar and spice and all things nice, that's what little girls are made of,

Slugs and snails and puppy dogs tails, that's what little boys are made of.

The boy child shall have blue colours, the girl child shall have pink colours, the boy child shall shine above all, the girl shall hide in his shadow --- sugar and spice etc.

This is how a man should be, a gun in his hand and a girl on his knee, this is woman's servility. ---

Sugar and spice etc. ---



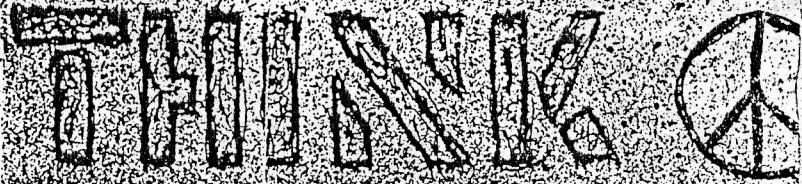
WRITE TO REALITY CONTROL
AT

121 FAIRHOLM RD,

BENWELL,
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

(Same
address as
Blood
Robots)

Reality control



Skeptix/Fiend/Sadistic Slobs The Station 21st Jan 84

The English Dogs and Insane didn't turn up so we'll forget about them like they forgot about us.

Tonight saw The Fiend at their best. More solid and tuneful than ever. Some may wonder how they get to play here so often; the only thing I wondered about on this occasion was why haven't they been signed up yet?

Next, a surprise appearance by the Sadistic Slobs, minus Rek. I'll not say too much about them as you can't really judge a band with a stand-in guitarist. What I will say is that they done the worst version of the Testies' "Run like Hell" that I've ever heard. My Best band of the night, just slightly ahead of the Fiend were the brilliant Skeptix. Fish must be one of the best punk guitarists (and Stu Uproar clones) around. "Scarred for Life" (The best song of the night by the way) is hard enough to play as it is, but not many people could move like Fish and still play it perfectly. Another good thing about the Skeptix was that they came on at 9.30, which meant I captured a full hour of their set to make up for the previous non-appearance. Most of the LP and the singles were played but after an encore of "Routine Machine" I had to regrettably make my way into the dark yonder.

D.A.N./Famous Imposters The Station 18th Feb 84

Soon you'll be able to write a book on the bands that have failed to turn up here! Tonight the offenders were Amebix and Anti-Sect... so much for preaching animal liberation! Anarka and Poppy were also supposed to play, but were fined for doing animal rights activities—that's the only acceptable excuse that I've heard yet for a band not turning up at the Station, oh yes, the Alternative had a good reason too.

I had seen the Famous Imposters in quite a few zines, and this must be partly due to having someone from Acts of Defiance in the band. With the guitar, in places, being much in the style of the System's "White Youth", they went down very well, and quite rightly too.

Ian T.O.R., bassist in DAN, later rated his band's performance as "appalling", and sorry Ian, but you were right. He later sent me a list of excuses but the main one must have been that they were pissed out of their heads. It was luckily for them that the crowd were in the same state, because there were quite a few dancing. The only thing I could make out in their set was the tune to "Magic Roundabout".

Rumours were going round that Public Disturbance were to finish off the night but this was not to be, although their singer got up to recite "Postman Pat", which was incredibly funny on the first hearing, but with the crowd feeling pissed off, didn't raise many laughs tonight.

GIGS THE FIRST FEW MONTHS IN 1984 HAVE SEEN LOADS OF GIGS. ON THIS PAGE ARE 3 REVIEWS.

BUT IT'S A SAD FACT THAT AT LEAST 2 OF THE BILLED BANDS FAILED TO TURN UP ON EACH OCCASION --- IF YOU GO TO ANY GIGS UP TO DATE I'LL INCLUDE IT.

CONFlict/FIEND/FAMOUS IMPOSTERS NCLE GUILDHALL 23rd FEBRUARY 84

This was the second time that I've went to see Icons of Filth, and the second time I failed. It's a wonder they turned up at the studio to record their single!!! Vex too were nowhere to be seen.

After hearing so much about the Famous Imposters and never seeing them, I find them at 2 gigs in the space of a week, both times as surprise guests. Tonight I missed the first half of the set but what I did see was good. If the 'name' bands keep on failing to turn up, and the Famous Imposters keep on replacing them then it looks like they are an aptly named band!

I don't think I could say anything about the Fiend that hasn't already been said except the sound for them tonight wasn't as good as usual somehow.

Due to the booze (incidentally, very expensive at this place—75p for scotch!!!) I can't remember much about Conflict, except having a bit jump about to 'The Serenade' (Their best song along with 'Blind Attack'). I just wonder though, that if Conflict want to preach to as many as possible, why do they come on after 10 PM when shortly after, half of the crowd have to leave to catch the bus?

Oh I nearly forgot. There was a poet on too reciting An animal lib poems... oops no space left...

anti-pasti

RETRO-SPECT
BY MARK T

anti-pasti

UK TOUR

WATCH OUT FOR MORE

Anti-Pasti - The Last Call

Along with the Exploited, Chron Gen and Discharge, Anti-Pasti were part of the force which made up 1981's "Apocalypse Now" tour, which received favourable press reviews and proved that the punk movement hadn't kicked the bucket as some people would have us believe. The following is an account of Pasti, of their short career and the mistakes which led to their downfall.....

Formerly known as the Scingers, Martin Roper(vox), Stu(bass), Stan (Drums) and Duggie Bell(guitar), had taken the name Anti-Pasti (Italian for "starters") and released "Four Sore Points" on their own "Dose" label before Rondelet took it up, the four songs included their future anthem "No Government", but also brought them into conflict with the Epileptics (now Flux) over the song "Two Years too Late".

The next release was "Let them Free" which featured a photo of Boris Karloff in the 1933 horror movie "The Ghoul" as the cover (4 sore points) cover was also from a horror film - "The Black Cat". However, by this time, there was a new rhythm section! Kevin Nixon(drums) and Will Hoon(bass) and the band were getting national attention ("Apocalypse Now" tour, "Punk's not Dead", front cover of "Sounds" etc). This line up of the band recorded the debut LP "The Last Call", which Garry Bushell awarded 42 stars when it was reviewed in "Sounds". The theme of the album was the fear of conscription and the possibility of another war. Musically, it was a collection of harsh, brittle and concerned numbers, even if it did contain a few re-worked songs from previous singles. The band were rewarded by a high position in the alternative charts. The next release was "Six Guns" which was regarded as a rival to the Exploited's "Dead Cities", but it didn't get Pasti on TOTPs, and they gained another member....

Olly, "The Last Call" and "Six Guns" producer joined on lead guitar and Pasti went to the States, where "Sounds" contributor Tim Sommer started off a row in the "Letters" pages, by stating that Pasti were becoming superior to their idols, The Clash!

The problems were already beginning for Pasti, as they, themselves admitted once in an interview, that a jinx was on the band, gigs had gone wrong, they hadn't been paid when touring Holland, the band had mixed-up bookings etc.

"East to the West" was the next single, a disco/funk beat with the characteristic 'twanging' Gang of 4 style guitar. Everyone was expecting a "Clash" style sell out, and the album, "Caution in the Wind", confirmed their fears, as it mixed rock, disco and even motown with violins and keyboards; it wasn't an album for those who despised "Sandinista" or "London Calling". Themewise, this album dealt with political corruption, the CIA, the cover-ups, the right wing press and the lack of civil rights, but to no avail, as the majority of the audience would not tolerate any "sell out" in the name of "musical progress". Press coverage was minimal, and internal rows led to the demise of Pasti, a line from "Guinea Pigs" seemed to sum up the situation -

"Where are they now?"

THE END

UK TOUR - AUGUST

! OUT FOR MORE DATES TO BE CONFIRMED

RADIOACTIVE TAPES

DAVE OF RADIOACTIVE TAPES SENT ME HIS LIST OF LIVE/DEMOS AND ALSO TAPE ME THE RIOT CLONE LIVE TAPE (REVIEWED ELSEWHERE)

THESE ARE THE BANDS THAT HAVE RELEASES - ABH, AMEBIX, AD NAUSEAM, ANTHRAX, ANTI-SCAB, CONFILCT, CHAOS UK, DKS, DEAD WRETCHED, DESTRUCTORS, DISCHARGE, DISORDER, D.F. EUROPE, ENGLISH DOGS, EPILEPTICS, FACTION, FLUX, FACEACHE, KILLING JOKE, OMEGA, TRIBE, PARTISANS, RIOT/CLONE, LOS CHERREES, RUDIMENTARY PENI, SUBHUMANS, CRASS + MORE.

PRICES - £60 - £1.00 OR BLANK TAPE
£90 - £1.30 + SAE

THERE ARE MORE THAN ONE TAPE BY NEARLY ALL THE BANDS LISTED ABOVE - THERE ARE NINE DIFFERENT ONES BY THE DESTRUCTORS FOR EXAMPLE. WRITE TO

DAVE, 14 SWALLOW HILL, THURLEY, BOURNE, LINS
PE10 0JB

ANTI-PASTI

In the bombs of 54
They said there was no danger
The government official
No-one knew that a stranger

There's a caution in the wind
In the bombs of 54
The British armoury
Beneath the valley floor

Through the valleys of Nevada
Downwind to Utah
The cries of the sickness
Were never heard that far

On Rondelet Records
Written by Anti-Pasti
Published by Zomba Music
Publishers Ltd.

CAUTION IN THE WIND



DON'T SIGN TO E.M.I. = NO.1

IN A RECENT 'SOUNDS' BEKI BONDAGE SEEMED ALARMINGLY IN FAVOUR OF HER LABEL - E.M.I. AND EVEN GETS TO SLAG OFF CRASS, (BECAUSE THEY OWN A STUDIO). IN CRASS'S DEFENCE, WE AT THE H.A.G.L. OFFICE, WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT TO MS. BONDAGE, THAT UNLIKE HER BAND, CRASS HAVE NEVER PUT OUT A SINGLE FOR £1.50, IN FACT CRASS'S FIRST 7" SINGLE WAS 45P!. WE ALSO WANT TO SEE HOW MANY BANDS, LIGOTAGE ARE GOING TO HELP, TO SHOW THAT, THEY, OF COURSE, HAVEN'T SOLD OUT!!

THE ABOVE EXCELLENT ARTICLE WAS DONE BY MARK T AND IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT IF BEKI DISAGREES WITH IT, CAN SHE COME TO MY HUMBLE ABODE AND GIVE ME SOMETHING THAT'S REALLY WORTH £1.50! UPSTAIRS, FIRST ON THE LEFT ETC!

BLOOD ROBOTS CONTINUED

What has been your best gig to date?

I don't think there is any one that stands out particularly (There have been a couple of bummers but...) most have been fairly good.

ALL QUESTIONS
WERE ANSWERED
BY SNED

Isn't being a vegetarian and wearing docs a bit contradictory? - Nobody in the band is buying any more leather. Seeing as my docs are my only pair of boots then if I didn't wear them, my feet would be a little cold, especially in the snow. When they wear out I shall buy a nice pair of cloth boots, same applies to the rest of the band. I consider buying leather as equally disgusting as buying meat.

IF ANYONE WANTS A BLOOD ROBOTS TAPE OR WANTS TO
WRITE TO STEPPING OUT (HEC AND SNED'S ZINE)
THE ADDRESS IS:
SNED - 121 FAIRHOLM RD,
BENWELL,
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE NE4 8AS

BLOOD ROBOTS

MWAB

MWAB ARE FROM STOCKSFIELD, NORTHUMBERLAND. I HAVEN'T ACTUALLY HEARD ANYTHING BY THEM BUT THEY SEEM TO BE A 'PUNK PATHETIQUE' TYPE BAND, INFLUENCED BY THE TOY DOLLS (I THINK) - SORT OF 'NOT THE NINE O'CLOCK NEWS' COME TO LIFE! THEY FIRST FOUND FAME (?) IN NO.3 OF THIS WITH THE WORDS TO THEIR DISCHARGE...

What do the letters MWAB stand for?
Good question. What does/do MWAB stand for? Actually, they stand for about half an hour and they get tired so they sit down. ha ha. MWAB does stand for something but i'm not going to say cos it's extremely embarrassing. You can of course make things up like Moonynit wobbles Are Blowing but there's not much point in that cos it doesn't make any sense.

CONTINUED
UNDER LOGO

What would you say was the all-time pathetique classic?
Very bad question. I'll have a gap and fill this in later. Oh god I'd forgotten about this one, erm, haven't got the foggiest. Very bad question indeed.

INFO CONTINUED...

-PISSTAKE ("I MONSTROUS NUCLEAR STOCKPILES WENT POP AND BANG" AND ALL THE PEOPLE GOT SPLATTERED ALL OVER THE PLACE/THIS MADE A TERRIBLE MESS AS I'M SURE YOU'VE REALISED - BUT WHO CARES ??!)

THEY EVENTUALLY APPEARED ON RECORD ("I'VE DONE A DIRT ON THE DEMOLITION BLUES" ON THE 'DEMOLITION BLUES' COMPILATION) FOLLOWED BY A SINGLE VS MICHAEL BUM AN

APPLE?
CONTACT MWAB AT 51 APPERLY RD,
STOCKSFIELD,
NORTHUMBERLAND
ENGLAND
EARTH.

Are any of you members of the official Max Bygraves fan club???

No, no and no and yes. None of us are. Who is Max Bygraves? Actually, I'd like to talk about Tracey Ullman because she is quite wonderful, almost as wonderful as Janet Fielding who plays Tegan in Doctor Who. Personally I think you should do and IN DEPTH (in all possible senses) interview with Tracey. In fact i'll do it for you. I would also like to say how bad Blue Peter has become since Sarah Greene left. Next question please.

Thankx to CREON for answering

the question

How did you get the single deal and who is Michael?
Ah ha, now to the serious stuff. I've been sending tapes here, there and everywhere for ages and eventually we got onto "Demolition Blues". After that, the singer and bassist left, assuming we'd get no further. So, just to piss them off, I decided to release a single on our own. Actually we just got the money together and a bloke we met called Brian Teesdale did the rest. He'd released records before, so he knew all the ropes, also knew the strings tho! i've never met them myself.

A lot of people ask us about "Is Michael Bum an Apple?" expecting a hilarious anecdote or to be told the meaning of life. Fact is, we saw an advert on a wall or somewhere by a bloke called Michael Burn, which amused us as it looked like "bum". Quick as a flash the old singer said "Is Michael Bum an Apple?" so I went home that evening and wrote a song to go with the title.

What's it like living in the middle of nowhere - is it exciting?
Basically, in a nutshell, NO. For a start it costs a bomb to go into town every Saturday night. It's totally boring and very, very green. Everythings green (Well, that's a lie actually, for a start, there's no green people here (not that i've seen any) there may of course be some but if there are i've never seen any - they're probably Leprechauns (?), you know - the little irish buggers. Mind you, what they're doing here I don't know (they probably got lost on the way to the supermarket) (assuming of course that they go to supermarkets, they may just go to corner shops. But then again they may not eat at all, they may just eat a short. Or not.

I haven't seen any posters for MWAB gigs - why?
Basically cos whenever we try to arrange a gig, something goes wrong. We had a couple lined up before we did the record but the drummer, Pad, broke his arm so they were "blown out" maaan. We've now got a lot of problems with our bassist/singer. As a gigging band we are "on ice" till we can sort out all this farty stuff. In the meantime, however, Pad and I (Creon) are arranging some "musical appearances" which we hope should cause much amusement.

If they go well, we may advertise one here and there but at the mo we'll be doing things between bands at a few gigs (does any of this make any sense?) Oh god this is sounding very arty and pretentious and very boring so that enuff of this question.

How many copies of "Michael" were pressed?

Ah the last one. God, writing these answers really tires one out. How many copies pressed? Well i've pressed about 12 of them. Mind you, it's not very exciting, i'd much rather press Tracey Ullman or Janet Fielding. By the way 515 copies of the records were made. Red Rhino in York took 320 odd and they sold half of them in a week so that can't be bad. It's only been properly released for a week or so (at the time of interview) but we've sold 30 or 40 ourselves (in pubs, stations, car parks etc) All in all i'm shure we'll sell them all and we'd like to press some more.

By the way, members of the general public go and buy this record now!! Can I also say that we sent one to John Peel but he hasn't played it, so i'm going to send him my bum in the post. The next single will be "Oh wherefore art thou meatpaste?" but it won't come out for about 4 decades so don't hold your breath (you can if you want but you'll find that after about 40 seconds or so you'll drop dead)



Last Rites formed Decem Jackson and Alan Currie. Drew invited two of his friends to join, John Simpson on vocals and Eddie McGuigan on drums. Within six weeks they had played 3 gigs, building up a good following, who had a habit of leaving a mass of destruction at each venue the band played at. This led to the band being banned from playing pubs. In Feb 82, John left to be replaced by Paul McGurn, who was also a mate of Drew, and at the end of March 82, Last Rites became five-Alan's school mate, was recruited on guitar.

The only gigs that the band could play were garage gigs and they were doing so, say around one every two weeks.

In July 82 the band managed to hire their rehearsal place for a gig. The police raided the place and the band lost around £300-400 worth of gear that night and were asked to pay £60 damages. At the end of the month, Tony left and in August the band were back to its original number of 4. They went in the studio to record their first demo. This was sent to No Future, Crass, Riot City and Clay. All but Clay showed some interest in the band. Tony returned to the band in September 82 although gigs could still not be found.

Boredom set in during the recording of the band's second demo in Nov. 82. Drew left and was replaced by Nick Breedy, a guy who Paul had known but after only two weeks he was sacked. Tony then moved to bass because the band had somehow managed to arrange a gig. This was also met with destruction and the band lost around 80% of their appearance money. The second demo was sent to Flickknife records and in Dec 82 they offered the band a recording contract.

Tony missed two rehearsals because he got the dates mixed up. He was replaced by Alan's mate Alex Fitzpatrick on bass, Jan 83. In February, the band went to London for a meeting at Flickknife. On that trip Eddie decided to leave the band so on their return to Glasgow, Willie Winning, a great Glasgow drummer with a local skinhead band was invited to join. He did but lasted only a month, leaving two days before the recording of their debut single "We don't care"/"Stepdown" (Both tracks excellent-Troy). Alan called on an ex workmate who played drums and asked him to sit in on drums, Stevie Gray now becoming the 10th Last Rite. The band played a gig in May with Stevie on drums, then Stevie returned to his original band and Jim Mitchell joined on drums. A few other gigs have followed and so did a new deal from a record company, this time Essential Records.

An EP containing 4 tracks and entitled "Fascism means War" is now released.

What are the songs on the forthcoming EP about? (This should be out by now)

Are Essential records a new label? I haven't heard of them? Essential are fairly new. We are the fourth band to be released on them. Others on the label are Subculture, From a Whisper and Ase of a Friend.

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How does the quality compare with the first single? Well we've not heard the pressings yet but it sounds good off the master tape and I thought the sound from the first single was good and if it's up to that standard i'll be happy.

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NEW YORK TRACKS FROM LAST RITES

How did you get the deal and how does it compare with Flicknife's? Why did you leave Flicknife?

We got the deal by just sending off a tape of some live stuff plus "We don't care" and "Stepdown" and Essential liked it, so about what the band were into. The great thing with Essential is the freedom to record whatever we want on vinyl. Essential are a great label, they promote their bands and give good advice to them. Flicknife's a good label too but it's too business-like-they're more interested in the Major Accident's, the hawkwind's etc, y'know, the big sellers which is what it's about, money. But surely we could have got more publicity from them. We left because we couldn't satisfy Flicknife's bankers, but if you don't put money into a band, you can't expect to get anything out of them. If you sign a band you must think they're good enough to sell to the public, unless you want to use them as a tax loss.

What's the gig situation like in Scotland? Would you like to play Newcastle?

The gig situation in Scotland is really bad, so bad that it makes me sick to talk about it. And yeah we'd love to play Newcastle-any offers anyone?

What do you think of people that tape your records instead of buying them? Would you take action, given the chance?

It does annoy you at times cos you've put a lot of work into making the record and hope to make some money from it so as to do some gigs etc. Think about your position-if you see someone in a shop reading your fanzine right through and not buying it



that's how we feel. But still you feel a bit happy cos at least they liked it enough to put it on their tape. And no, we wouldn't take any action unless they were making money from it.

Anything to add?

Thanks to anyone who buys our records, it's much appreciated by us all. Also to any fanzines who write anything on the band. Good or bad publicity is publicity, and to anyone that writes to the band, it's good to hear from you. And anyone who comes to see the band live. Last Rites will die without your support. We depend on you. For info contact:

Alan, Last Rites, Flat 4/A, 61 Balgrayhill Rd, Springburn, Glasgow.

FINALLY ME BEING IN A CRUEL MOOD, I HAVE DECIDED TO POINT OUT THAT ALAN BEARS A GOOD RESEMBLANCE TO FEARGAL SHARKEY!!!

REVIEWS

Mau Maus: "Live at the Marples" (Pax) *½**
I was told the sound quality of this was a bit dodgy which again goes to show that you can't believe everything you hear. "Crisis" and "The Kill" are delivered far better than on the first EP.

The only newies (I think) are "Rebellion" and a version of "Be my Baby" (Not a patch on the Drones' version due to missed chords etc).

Several tracks appear twice on this-it's all as what happened on the night

When I see so many credits on the cover I get the feeling that the Mau Maus have made many people very happy, and the price (£2.29 for fuckknowshowmany tracks) only confirms my feelings.

Faceache: Demo. ***

3 tracks isn't really much to judge a band by but this isn't bad. The bass is put through a fuzz box to compensate for lack of guitar, resulting in an acidey sound like on Devoid's "No Sense" demo.

"Witch in the Chair" is by far the best track, with a good memorable tune. Can't really say much more about it, as my copy of the tape knacked after a couple of hearings. Don't know if it's for sale, but try sending a blank tape to the address on their interview page elsewhere.

Red Brigade: "Official dodgy demo" ***

All but one of the six tracks included cover typical subjects, the track that doesn't is the best song on here ("Runaway"). They're a Scottish band and it's not hard to tell judging by the singing. They're pretty much your average punk band so there's not a lot I can say about them. Not bad for a first attempt I suppose. £1.50 & SAE may sound expensive, but the profits are going towards organising gigs in their area. You get a badge as well, write to Erny, 57 Hillcrest, Fraserburgh, Aberdeenshire, Scotland.

Various: "Eject it" (Holocaust tapes) *½**

The second compilation from the Still Dying people is comparable with the first as it's on TDK tape and 23 tracks for a quid can't be bad value.

What it lacks in consistency, the outstanding tracks make up for. Those tracks are by Political Asylum, Self Abuse, Impact and Kulturkampf, the latter being in a class of their own with the tracks "Violent Pride" and "General Investigators". I'm pleased they're not from Germany as the name suggests, because I hope to see these live if they come to the Station (I've heard rumours of this, hope it's true). The quality of their tracks is excellent too.

It's ironic that the most "famous" (horrible word) band supply the worst track, Flux's "Left to Die", so far unreleased on record, and no wonder!

Political Asylum aren't the hardcore noise band that the name sort of suggests. One of their donations here is slow, the other fast, but both very tuneful, and you can actually make out the words!!! "Autonomous Youth" explains that you don't have to conform with the punk image to be one while their slower track "System of war" deals with the subjects in the title of it.

Overall, there's not much originality which spoils it a bit. Although it's good, it doesn't match "Yes, you've guessed it" (the first S.Dying tape) but that wasn't expected anyway. If this sounds your cup of tea, zap a quid and SAE to:

Holocaust tapes, 29 Sandrigg Square, Harton Moor, South Shields, Tyne and Wear NE 34.

ANOTHER GOODIE FROM MARK T

PORTRAIT OF THE (PISS)ARTIST
GAZ BULLSHIT (PEOPLES MAN)
AS A CONSUMER

I have found Skinhead Authority's address if anyone wants to contact them. It's....

Paul Manilow, 113 Naworth Drive, Hillheads Estate, Westerhope. Father's day cards welcome (ha ha!).



BOOKS=A-Z OF COCKNEY SLANG, THE SUN, THE JAMES T. PURSEY GUIDE TO REBELLION, ARTHUR MULLARD GOES NAKED (SCRAPBOOK) VIOLENCE BEERGUT WEEKLY, "FAT BASTARD" GUIDE TO HIDING TREBLE CHINS (BEARD-CATALOGUE), "FUCK CHANGE! GET ME APINT! (GUNFUEL) LIKES = MYSELF, MY WORK, MY PHOTO, MY GUTS EAST END KIDS, PAGE 3, ROSS HALFIN, LYING, STIRRING, HM PUNK, @@@@ TAMLA DISLIKES = THE TRUTH (NOT THE BAND), THE WORLD- (EXCEPT EAST END!), PUNK, HM, REGGAE, TAMLA, CRASS @ ETC., SOUNDS, MY MOHICAN.

Chron Gen: "Nowhere to run" 12" (Picasso) *½**
Picasso dealt in works of art and so do Chron Gen. The best band of 82 bounce back 2 years later and on the evidence of "Pretend" and "Breakdown", they could well be the best band of 84 too. The music breaks into other areas, yet still has the good tunes that we expect from them: There's HM guitar on "Too much talk" and bouncy disco bass on "Misadventure", but this is by no means a sell-out. A very good comeback but I still think Volume have a cheek to charge 3 notes for 6 tracks.

I'll leave the summing up to Lenny Henry - "It's Weird!".

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Due to dodgy printing, some of the crossword answers on the b'ther record review page have been obliterated. There are 4 down) One Step Forward (10) Mau Maus (25) Gun.

DAN

THE INTERVIEW

"IF SOMEONE

CAME UP TO YOU AND SAID YOU SOUNDED
LIKE DURAN DURAN, WOULD YOU A) HIT THEM B) SAY 'WOOPEE WE'RE
GONNA BE RICH!' OR C) SPLIT UP?"

"WE DON'T REALLY THINK THIS IS VERY RELEVANT TO WHAT WE'RE
TRYING TO DO. IF SOMEONE THOUGHT WE SOUNDED LIKE DURAN DURAN THAT'S FINE,
EVERYONE'S ENTITLED TO THEIR OWN OPINIONS. DON'T THINK IT'LL HAPPEN THOUGH."

"ARE YOU DESPERATE TO GET GIGS?"

"NO, NOT REALLY. SOME OF US HAVE GOT EXAMS COMING UP WE WANNA
DO. WE WANT TO PLAY 'THE STATION' AGAIN COS WE MADE SUCH A MESS OF
IT THE LAST TIME AND PEOPLE THINK WE'RE SHIT NOW, BUT WE'RE NOT. WE'VE
BEEN OFFERED GIGS AT NOTTINGHAM AND LEEDS (AGAIN) WITH DISORDERZ SO MABYGE WE
CAN GET ON AT THE STATION WITH THEM AS WELL. BOLTON AND BARNESLEY ARE ALSO
POSSIBILITYS FOR LATER ON." AW SHIT! I WAS HOPING TO
CALL YOU DESPERATE DAN! -TREV

"(CRIBBERY TIME) WHAT FANZINES DO YOU LIKE?"

"VIEWS VARY THROUGH THE BAND BUT DIFFERENT ZINES LIKED ARE 'COMMANDER PHATANG
ARANG (?); 'PROTEST', 'ANATHEMA' AND 'RAISING HELL... AND THE DAN BITS IN 'HAVE A GOOD
LAUGH'. OTHER SMART ZINES ARE 'HUDDERSFIELD SUCKS'; 'MENTALLY UNSTABLE', AND OF
COURSE 'DANISH BOTTLE PARTY', 'T.O.R.' (SUCHA PITY NO.9'LL BE THE LAST ONE) AND 'W.Y.L.A.E.'"

"WHAT D'YOU THINK OF GARRY BUSHELL'S BEARD?"

"WHAT IS THE POINT OF THIS QUESTION? IT IS VERY SHIT! WE DON'T THINK ABOUT
GARRY BUSHELL'S BEARD! IF YOU ASK QUESTIONS THAT'RE THIS BAD WHAT'S THE POINT IN
DOIN' AN INTERVIEW?"

"WHO IS SUE AYTON ???"

"NOW HERE'S A REALLY RELEVANT QUESTION!!! SUE
AYTON IS THE ORIGINAL GROUPIE. SHE LIVES IN
BRETTON NEAR WAKEFIELD AND SHE'S GOT RAMMY
EYEBROWS AND HER SISTER'S GOT A RAMMY LEFT
EAR. WE'D GIVE YOU HER ADDRESS BUT YOU CAN'T
HAVE IT!"

"WHAT IS A HERETIC?"

"A DOORNOB LICKING OSTRICH... NOT REALLY. WHY SHOULD
WE TELL YOU THIS? IF YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT A
HERETIC IS LOOK IN YOUR DICTIONARY, LAZY GET. I'LL
TELL YOU JESUS WAS A HIPPY THOUGH, HE WAS NALL."

"WHAT DO YOU THINK OF 'TESTAMENT OF REALITY'? (IAN SHOULDN'T ANSWER THIS ONE.)

Dallas, Helen & Jane sing
Ian sings and plays bass
Slob and Sled twangs their
Steelie blitz
Even guitars and the drums.

"WE ACTUALLY WE THINK IT'S REALLY EDGE FOR WHAT IT
IS. ONE OF THE BEST OF THE BANDZINES - THOUGH #8 DID HAVE
MORE ARTICLES IN. IT'S SUCH A SHAME THAT NO.9 WILL BE
THE LAST ONE. WE'VE GOT A DEAD GOOD INTERVIEW IN IT!"

"FINALLY, EXCUSES FOR BEING SO BAD AT 'THE STATION' AND TELL US
ABOUT THE TAPE WHILE YOU'RE AT IT."

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT EXCUSES, MORE LIKE JUSTIFIED REASONS, EXCEPT
THAT WE STARTED DRINKING AROUND 10 AM AND DIDN'T STOP TILL WE GOT
ON STAGE. FOR A START THE MONITORS WEREN'T WORKING, MY LEAD BUST,
THERE WAS ONE MIC BETWEEN THREE SINGERS AND SLED'S AMP BLEW. THE
WHOLE SET JUST DISINTEGRATED INTO ONE LONG 'MAGIC ROUNDABOUT'. HOPEFULLY
A LOT OF PEOPLE WILL HAVE HEARD THAT GIG WAS GOOD AT LEEDS BIER KELLAR. WE
WENT DOWN, PLAYED AND WERE A LOT BETTER. THAT IS AVAILABLE ON TAPE NOW...
IF ANYONE WANTS ONE... JUST SEND A DECENT TAPE AND S.A.E. THE QUALITY'S NOT
BAD EITHER. WE WERE GOING TO GO INTO WOODLANDS STUDIOS NEAR WAKEFIELD
IN APRIL BUT THAT'S BEEN PUT BACK TILL WE'VE DONE MORE GIGS. HAMMY OF THE
INSTIGATORS AND MEDCALF WILL BE TWIDDLEING THE KNOBS AND THE RESULT MAY BE
A DEMO, FLEXI, OR PROPER RECORD."

WILL THE MADMAN WHO PRESSES THE BUTTON EVER STOP AND
THINK, WILL THE FOOL WHO SCREAMS OUT THE ORDER EVER LISTEN
TO WHAT WE SAY?

MATT BIANCO IS
THE BEST!! YIPPEE!

KIRK MOP
& THE SEIVES
2. Drug St
or 11 Salutation Rd
Both Darlington,
Co Durham.

FUNNEL IT
DOWN YER.

This interview with Crass was sent ages ago, and looking back, some of the questions are bloody stupid and ignorant so I hope people take this into consideration when reading it. The answers are short due to Crass getting so much mail.

The elsewhere review of "You're Already Dead" is meant as a guidance, not as a slag-off. Crass would get through to a lot more people if they stopped making a horrible din.

Thanks to Eve for answering the following-

Does "Punk is Dead" refer to attitude or music?

Attitude.

Why was the last single in brown vinyl? (How can you tell this is an old interview!?)

HOW DID YOU ARRANGE THE GIG WITH THE EXPLOITED?

Because it was about shit.

WATTIE CONTACTED US

AND ASKED US TO

DO IT AND WE

SAYED

What was it about?

Shit or Thatcher, same difference.

YES.

How do you manage to sell your records so cheap?

Because we don't take huge profits.

On "Christ the Album", what is "Reality Whitewash" about?

It's pretty obvious I would have thought, it's about male/female roles.

What was the full story behind you meeting Steve Arrogant in a cafe somewhere?

Just that - we met him in a cafe.

Do you feel that total anarchy could work? What would there be to stop idiots kicking people's heads in?

Anarchy is a state of mind. Not people doing what they want regardless of others. I enclose a sheet explaining it.

One of the questions I asked was about Crass's squat-rock gig at the zig-zag. The following was taken from one of their handouts.

...What happened at the Zig-Zag, we hope, was one step towards reclaiming what is ours-freedom, free food, free shelter, free information, free music, free ideas, freedom to do whatever does not infringe upon the freedom of others.

The idea of "squat rock" is not purely another way of doing gigs, as we hope this handout explains. Hopefully it will have been, and is, an inspiration to other people to open up more places, whether it be for gigs, to live in, whatever...

As a rough outline, it is worth bearing in mind the following points, should you be considering doing so. There were some difficulties that we came up against, which it may be of use for you to know.

Firstly, carefully choose the venue, noting the type of area it's in, how easy gaining entry will be and if possible, who owns it etc. Also choose a couple of alternatives in case anything goes wrong. Then arrange for some bands to come along or for an event to happen to attract some people to the place on the day. Don't forget P.A./Amplification equipment etc. Get together a small group of people to act as the initial "break-in" group. It's not helpful to have too many people hanging around whilst you are getting into the place as this may unnecessarily attract attention. Publicity before hand is important, as it can be depressing if no one turns up. Let people know that something will be happening, but obviously don't publicise the location. We printed a phone number to ring the night before the gig which we put a recorded message informing people of the address, time, location etc - as soon as we were inside the Zig-Zag. Once the first group have gone in, it is worth gathering as many people as you can that will stay in the building at all times until you start the event, the more people, the less likelihood of you being thrown out illegally.

When gaining entry, don't cause any damage to the property. The police may try to arrest you for criminal damage. Be sure you know your rights as far as the law is concerned. A sympathetic solicitor on call if necessary is good if you can get one. Release (1 Elgin Avenue, London, W9) produce a statement, which says in legal jargon that you are acting within your rights (which you are-squatting is still legal). If the police realise that you know what you're doing, they are less likely to try and stop you, so (if they know you are inside) post copies of the notice on all the doors. Once a group of you are in and secure, two people should walk around outside to prevent the police from gaining entry by force - once they are inside you don't have a leg to stand on. Now use whatever means you can of getting more people there - radio, local and national press, leaflets, flyposting...

If you are staging a one day event, make sure there is always someone on the door to prevent possible disruption. Impress on everyone that it's up to them to make it work. With real co-operation, it can.

After that it's up to you. If you want to stay, we think that it's good to keep the place as ordered as possible to avoid giving the police or community any excuse to get you out. They will have to obtain an official court order if they want to do so otherwise - this can take up to 6 months! Good luck."

Forgotten Youth 2-30p from Mick, 17 Larden Ave, Scartho, Grimsby S. Humber. Well printed but far too many info sheets and not enough interviews. Otherwise, a good effort. ABW, Seizure and Mau Mau are included amongst others. Nearly 1/2 a year old so I wouldn't bet on getting a copy but worth a try.

Huddersfield Sucks 4-30p from 12 Bell Street, Newsome, Huddersfield, W. Yorkshire. No interviews, most of the space being taken up with articles on foreign bands and absolutely loads of reviews. Again, another oldish zine so I can't guarantee there being any left. Amusing cover.

Scheoblich (alias Obnoxious) 6-10p from Rob, 8 Langwood, Fleetwood, Lancs or from me. No bands, should've been better, still brill reviews tho'. Not much here, but what is is good wholesome stuff.

Cardboard Theatre 1-20p from Vince, 84 Auckland Way, Whitby, N. Yorks. Political Asylum, UK Anarchists, Total Chaos, Screaming Dead and Hagar the Womb interviews in this duplicated debut. No doubt people will moan about some of the printing but it's better than filling some fat printer's wallet. Another example that cheap isn't always nasty.

Animal Instinct 2-20p from Richard, 19 Manor House Rd, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne. Conflict, King Kurt, UK Subs, Meteors, Alarm, Climb, Activited and Testies. The fact that it is duplicated doesn't stop it being the best zine this year so far and I don't think i've ever read a better zine of it's kind. The interviews are long and interesting and there's plenty more besides. Don't miss it.

Yahoo 2-0p from Paul Speakman, 46 W. Chapelton Ave, Bearsden, Glasgow, Scotland. Paul sez response so far has been poor, which is a crying shame if someone spends their time doing something that they don't even charge for. It's equally as good as most zines that you pay for so send for it now! Skeptix and Power/Age (from S. Africa) are amongst the bands featured. Good layout an'all.

No Concern 2-25p from Paul, 126 Gainsborough Green, Abingdon, Oxon, or from me. An improvement on the first issue in both printing and content. It's bigger than the average zine and features Snot Gobblers, Destructors, Major Accident, Die in Vain etc. We've had to wait a long time for this but it has been well worth it.

REAL LIFE - 30p from Volume 1
DON'T LET THE PIC OF JOHN COOPER CLARKE ON THE COVER FOOL YOU - IT'S ALL POLITICAL SOCIALIST SHIT. THAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND, AND I DON'T THINK I WANT TO.

RUNNY GREEN SICK - Concerning my review of it in the last issue - We all know now that R.G.S. was a pisstake zine and the reason for me thinking otherwise was cos I just had a flick through it and saw the Crass slagging and the moronic Oi band lyrics which put me off buying it straight away. So I didn't notice anything else about it.

MORE TAPES

Riot/Clone live (Radioactive tapes). ***³/₄ For a live tape, the sound quality isn't too bad. I'm not sure where it was recorded cos i've lost Dave's letter. Best song on here is the amazing-excellent out of this world "Running", a totally memorable number with the best vox i've heard in a long time. This also serves as a showcase for how Riot/Clone have progressed - compare the tracks from the first EP to those of the second. Listen to the drumming, particularly on "Sick Games" and "Lucrative Lies" - just pure brilliance!

Besides the tracks already committed to vinyl you also get to cop an earful of "Why do you have to eat me?", "A Specs", the aforementioned "Running" and a version of PIL(ocks)'s "Public Image".

At the price of a blank tape and SAE, can you really afford not to have it?? Address elsewhere.

DAN LIVE (£1 + SAE from Ian, 11 Salutation Rd, Darlington, Co. Durham) ***¹/₂ Although it sounds like it was recorded in a factory, I think it was recorded at Leeds.

Dan plan to do a studio tape in the future, which is just as well, as there's some good songs here all gone to waste due to the quality which is almost as bad as ATV's 'Rat Club' album.

Unfortunately, I can't tell you what the good songs are called because I can't make out a word of it! 2 1/2 stars may seem harsh but if Ian and the boys get it right in the studio, they'll REALLY silence the station critics.

When I wrote to Punk Lives for the following interview, I thought I either wouldn't get a reply, or have to wait months for it. I was wrong. Just 12 weeks later I got their reply. I didn't even enclose a SAE. It seems strange that people that slag it off sometimes take far longer to reply, or don't even bother.

What made you start it?

Before starting Punk Lives I was editor of Record Mirror and the HM magazine Kerrang. Both of these are owned by Spotlight publications who also publish Sounds. Well they brought out the one-off magazine 'Punk's not Dead', but because of problems-too boring to go into detail-they decided not to publish any more issues of it. I knew that it had sold reasonably well and thought there would be a market for a regular monthly magazine. Plus I'd always been interested in newer bands rather than the long established boring bands that seem to churn out an album and a couple of singles a year because they have to. There were loads of reasons for wanting to start Punk Lives, but I suppose the reason I left Record Mirror and Kerrang was because I wanted to publish a magazine myself.

How much is it to get them printed?

It's not always the same figure. At the moment our payment for issues sold just about covers the cost for printing, typesetting, colour reproduction and editorial costs.

How many copies do you shift, roughly?

Around 28,000 each month.

(Be honest) Do you make much profit?

We are now on issue 12 (probably about 14 by the time this is out) and last month was the first month that I took any wages from the magazine. All the work is done at home from a converted cellar and we don't have any full time staff. My wife, Mavis, does all the mailing out, typing, letters, etc and hasn't had a penny paid to her. We're hoping that enough record companies, groups, shops etc. will start advertising and then we should make a profit. At the moment I do freelance design and layout work for other magazines to make a living.

What would you say the average age of your readership is?

It's difficult to tell, but I would say the majority are between 15-22.

I hear you all did fanzines once-what were they?

Not just once, but still do. Dr Syn runs "Panache", Tony D brings out "Kill your pet puppy", Al A does "Encyclopaedia of Ecstasy", Plebb does "Final Curtain" and numerous other people have helped with fanzines.

About how many letters do you get a week?

On average about 200. Everything from records and tapes for review, to Penpals, Graffiti, and, of course, loads of fanzines that we always review.

Finally, what do you say to the people that think it's a rip-off made by businessmen in suits?

Some businessmen in suits are not all bad. Remember, they are the people that originally loaned us the money to start Punk Lives off. We couldn't have done it without their help. Some fanzines are printed by businessmen. We're all trying to make a living at something we enjoy doing (Can't see the enjoyment in dressing like a prick!-Trev) I like doing Punk Lives but I don't make a living out of it but if it made me a millionaire I wouldn't complain.

You have to remember that just because a company makes a profit on something, it doesn't mean to say they've always made a profit. Who has to pay for those losses in the past? If Punk Lives folded tomorrow-it's possible-those people that think we rip them off wouldn't give a shit.

All I'm trying to do is produce the best punk magazine there is for people that like the music and want to know more about bands that they haven't heard and by doing that, bring to the attention of readers new bands that are struggling at the moment. We can only help one another by cooperating, instead of all the backstabbing that seems to be going on.

WELL THAT'S IT. WHETHER OR NOT HE WAS TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT THE PROFIT QUESTION, THERE'S STILL BETTER THINGS FOR FANZINES TO SLAG OFF.

THANX A LOT TO ALF MARTIN FOR ANSWERING THE QUESTIONS.

The world's most colourful Punk fanzine!

"And Fuckface joined on bass a couple of months ago..."

ALIVE OR DEAD/ALIVE OR DEAD/ALIVE OR DEAD/ALIVE OR
Here I sit, music vaguely filters through the stereo, the words form "My life's the disease" and sitting here I feel almost diseased amidst all of this I have just been glancing through a pile of 'fanzines'...so what?

Recently a close friend remarked to me that he loved fanzines as we flicked through some 'punk' zines or other-it didn't really bother me at the time, I didn't really mind how utterly SAFE it was, all the nice little band reviews and "punk & anarchy will never die" slogans, the token anti nuclear articles and beyond the pages and pages of bands, what? My friend tells me I shouldn't be so harsh on these publications as they're doing what they want. Anarchy.

But I can't help feeling DISGUST telling us all about when the Drastik Gerbils first formed etc, I suppose that in a way because I've done something just like this in the past I feel this way..but all the same, where the fuck are you going? Another potted biography of the Life-Fuckers and a few anarchy signs scattered around just to show that you care?

Another cult, another decaying fashion-look at any 'punk' gig; even those put on by non-profit places like Gateshead's Station, there are always many drunken punkies smiling their faces off as some band thrashes away at guitars & scream on about war or unemployment or whatever and where are they? In a different world, reality has no place here, awareness is dead here, the beer goes down and the bondage trousers bounce in the air, clinging desperately at the sweat-soaked air-all lads out together having a good laugh... doesn't this remind you of the supposedly despised trendies with their endless disco pantomime music? Isn't the aim of both the punks and the trendies escapism? Reality? Reality is dead. Ask any anarchist punk bands-labels have throttled it-all that matters are fuzz boxes and studs.....richard edible.

"Give peace a chance" said John Lennon, but the record company who are profiting from this record (EMI) ARE ONE OF THE BIGGEST ARMS DEALERS IN THE WORLD so when you buy "peace" or "radical" records from HMV or on EMI, CBS or even RIOT CITY (A small branch of EMI) you are helping the escalation of the arms race which you are supposedly so against.
IS this what we really want??
IF YOU WANT PEACE, DONT BUY THE PRODUCT!!

BOYCOTT THE
ARMS TRADE